

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 11, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Michael J. Copps
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room 8-B115
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room 8-C302
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room 8-A302
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room 8-A204
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 10-56

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners Copps, McDowell, Clyburn, and Baker:

We write in support of the proposed Comcast/General Electric joint venture regarding NBC Universal (NBCU), and respectfully request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) complete its review of the transaction in a timely manner. We believe that, after a fair and thorough examination, the FCC will find that this joint venture advances the national communications policy goals of diversity, localism, innovation, and competition.

Comcast is headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and is a true American success story. It started as a small cable system operator and has grown into one of the nation's leading communications and entertainment companies with almost 11,000 employees in Pennsylvania and over 100,000 employees throughout the country.

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Notwithstanding this impressive growth, Comcast has maintained a family tradition of hands-on involvement in the local communities that it serves. Since 2001, Comcast employees, families, and friends have volunteered at more than 2,300 projects and delivered nearly 1.4 million hours of service through Comcast Cares Day -- an annual event dedicated to making a positive impact in neighborhoods across the country. In 2009, over 60,000 volunteers worked on projects at 600 sites around the country. This is but one example of Comcast's strong record as a respected and responsible corporate citizen.

The combination of NBCU's content businesses with Comcast's media expertise promises many benefits. As the parties stated in their Public Interest Statement filed with the FCC, "the new NBCU will be able to increase the quantity, quality, diversity and local focus of its content, and accelerate the arrival of the multiplatform, 'anytime, anywhere' future of video programming that Americans want." We also note that both companies have been job creators and have stated their intention to continue growing this important sector of the American economy, which also contributes favorably to America's balance of trade.

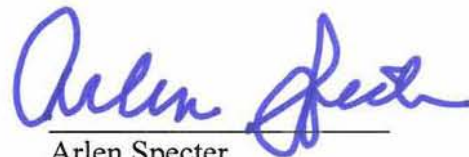
In addition to the real and tangible benefits of innovation, the parties have also made numerous, unprecedented upfront commitments to meet the needs of viewers and protect the interests of competitors. We applaud the companies for volunteering these commitments that go beyond what is required by law. Importantly, the parties have committed to help preserve free, over-the-air delivery of NBC and Telemundo local and national news and other programming. The commitments to maintain and enhance local news, public affairs, children's, and Hispanic programming, and to improve public, educational and government access programming, are entirely consistent with Comcast's history of community involvement. The parties have also made commitments that will ensure competing distributors have access to the companies' video programming and to ensure that independent programmers can reach audiences through Comcast's cable operations. We believe the willingness of Comcast and NBCU to anticipate and address concerns by making these commitments was both wise and very responsible. And we hope that the FCC does not seek to impose additional, burdensome commitments on the parties that could impede investment and the competitiveness of the new NBCU.

The FCC has the obligation to review the proposed venture and determine whether the public interest benefits outweigh any potential harm. We believe the benefits of this transaction are manifold and welcome the FCC's commitment to conduct its review expeditiously to ensure that the parties to the transaction are not harmed by undue delay, and so they can begin to deliver the promised benefits to the public very soon.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.



Arlen Specter